

Teaching Writing vs. Teaching Writers

Assigning Writing	Teaching Writing	Teaching Writers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Giving students a topic to write about✓ Asking students to write a paper for which there is no “real world” facsimile✓ Commenting only on final draft✓ Covering final draft in red pen✓ Requiring all writing to be done at home with a teacher’s support/guidance✓ Assigning a grade to anything that was not explicitly taught.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Assigning a paper that must be written in a specific genre✓ Helping student develop a topic for a specific assignment✓ Conferring with a writer about a specific paper✓ Guiding a student through on-going revisions of a specific paper✓ Finding genre-specific mentor texts that will assist and inspire a student to write a specific paper✓ Giving feedback throughout the process✓ Grading the skills you have explicitly taught for the particular paper✓ Helping student publish the paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Encouraging a student to make long-term writing plans✓ Helping a student find a form or genre that fits her idea✓ Conferring with a student about his growth from paper to paper✓ Encouraging a student to revise older papers and use her present perspective to improve and transform old work✓ Incorporating mentor texts that cut across genres and demonstrate skills that individual writers need✓ Incorporating self-reflection into the assessing of writing✓ Giving narrative feedback that requires the student to revisit lessons and learn something new✓ Assessing the skills you have taught from previous units of study✓ Helping student build a portfolio